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Army Medical Department Enlisted Training News

<http://das.cs.amedd.army.mil/outlook1.htm>

From the Top

The role of NCOs in training is outlined thoroughly in FM 7-0, Training the Force. A section of NCO Responsibilities on the Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Report is devoted to training. It is clearly one of the most important roles an NCO is given and the impact on Soldiers is invaluable.

An area of NCO training responsibilities that I want to focus on is the sharing of knowledge and experience to fight, survive, and win. Our current and ever changing combat environment makes this more crucial than ever. We cannot wait for training manuals and publications to be updated as a means of educating Soldiers on current trends, techniques, and lessons learned. Instead, it is every NCO's responsibility to not only share their knowledge and experience with their subordinates, but to ensure they pass these lessons learned from train-ups, mobilizations, and deployments on to other units, leaders, and Soldiers throughout the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) and the Army. Valuable knowledge is lost when we fail to document and disseminate information in a timely manner. The potential benefit to Soldiers who are about to undertake similar missions is immeasurable.

In the AMEDD, we have specific sources to which any Soldier can contribute their knowledge and experience in order to benefit others. These sources are the AMEDD Army Lessons Learned at lessonslearned.amedd.army.mil and Enterprise Consultancy at ec.amedd.army.mil. Both of these websites are

managed by the AMEDD Center and School and their sole purpose is to assist in the sharing of information and experiences and to answer questions. As I travel throughout the world visiting units and Soldiers, I find that many of our AMEDD Soldiers are unaware of these sites and have a wealth of beneficial information to share from their recent deployments and duties. Many are preparing to deploy and have missed the opportunity to learn from those that have deployed before them.



Sandra K. Townsend
CSM, USAMEDCOM

Reinventing the wheel because we have not learned from others' mistakes or achievements is inexcusable at a time when our resources are already stretched thin. I encourage every Soldier to check out these sites and simply review the information available, or if applicable, contribute your own experiences and knowledge. Use NCODP or Sergeants Time Training as opportunities to educate your Soldiers on these valuable resources.

Training is the key to producing confident, competent Soldiers who can be successful and survive on the battlefield. Ensure you are doing your part to afford all Soldiers the opportunity to learn from others knowledge and experience and to make our organization more efficient and effective.

2004 Expert Field Medical Badge (EFMB) program

The following CONUS and OCONUS EFMB test dates and sites have been announced:

CONUS

13-17 Jun 04, 10th Combat Support Hospital, Fort Carson, CO

25-29 Oct 04, Joint Readiness Training Center, 115th Field Hospital, Fort Polk, LA

OCONUS

31 Jul – 5 Aug 04, 172d Infantry Brigade, Fort Wainwright, AK

For more information, **contact:** SFC Briscoe, Department of Training Support, EFMB Test Control Office, DSN 421-9453, (210) 295-9453, FAX DSN 471-2716, or (210) 221-2716. For additional EFMB program information, access the website at www.cs.amedd.army.mil/dts/efmbhome.htm.

Physician Assistant Program

The Interservice Physician Assistant Program is a 2-year officer producing school with a year of didactics at Fort Sam Houston and a year of clinical rotations at a MEDDAC. Graduates are awarded a Master's Degree from the University of Nebraska, and enlisted and warrant officer graduates are commissioned as 2LTs in the Army Medical Specialist Corps, and awarded AOC 65D.

Applicants must be Active Army enlisted, officer, or warrant officer, with a minimum of 3 years active service (will not be waived). Applicants with more than 8 years active service must request a waiver of time in service. Enlisted applicants must have a GT of 110. Only enlisted Army Reserve Component Soldiers are eligible to apply. All applicants must have taken the Scholastic Aptitude Test within 5 years of the fiscal year of application. All applicants must have 60 semester hours of college credit. Thirty "core" semester hours must have been earned at a college or university, or an accredited distance-learning course via the Internet. The MOS, CLEP, and DANTES examinations for credit, or transfer credit without a letter grade will not fulfill the 30 "core" semester hours. The 30 "core" courses are:

- 6 hrs from Humanities and/or Social Sciences
- 6 hrs Chemistry (Organic, Inorganic, General, or Biochemistries)
- 6 hrs English (3 hrs must focus on composition)
- 6 hrs Human Anatomy and Physiology (3 anatomy, 3 physiology, or 3 A+P I, 3 A+P II)
- 3 hrs College Algebra or higher (not prep algebra)
- 3 hrs Psychology (any)

The application deadline is 30 Apr each year and the board reviews eligible applications in July. Results are published on the Human Resources Command site in late August. All information required to apply is found at the yearly message site <http://healthcare.goarmy.com/docs/paqual3.htm> and in AR 601-20 available at usapa.army.mil. The FY 04 message update to AR 601-20 will be found at this site.

For Active Army or Army Reserve, **contact:** CPT Carden, PA-C, DSN 536-0386, (502) 626-0386, 1-800-223-3735 – ext 60386, or e-mail ipap@uarec.army.mil. The USAR website is <http://www.army.mil/mil/usar/>, select Resources/Training/Physician Assistant. For ARNG applications, call DSN 327-7306 or (703) 607-7306.

311-91H10 Optical Laboratory Specialist Course

The 24-week course is conducted at the Tri-Service Optician School, Naval Ophthalmic Support and Training Activity, Naval Weapons Station, Yorktown, VA. Active Army personnel use DA Form 4187 and include DA Form 2, DA Form 2-1, and letters of recommendation from the chain of command evaluating applicants potential and ability to complete this course to CDR, PERSCOM TAPC-EPT-F, 2461 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA 22331-0400. Army National Guard and Army Reserve SSG's will receive a certificate of completion for attending this course; additional skill level 30 training is required to be awarded the MOS.

For prerequisites and class dates, check the Course Catalog at the following website: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil>. The catalog is in the upper right corner. Enter Optical Laboratory Specialist as the course title, select the fiscal year desired, and click on "Search." For more information, **contact:** SFC Strickland, Physician Extender Branch, Department of Medical Sciences, DSN 471-5417, (210) 221-5417, or e-mail kevin.strickland@us.army.mil.

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Soldiers can earn promotion points with FREE on-line courses

SkillSoft (formerly SmartForce) offers a state-of-the-art computer-based training (CBT) system that is customized for individuals and delivered in a fast, effective way. SkillSoft provides Internet-enabled learning events from technical seminars to real-time collaboration with a network of mentors and experts. To access the system, you must have an Army Knowledge Online (AKO) account. After logging into AKO at <http://www.us.army.mil> from the home page window entitled Army Wide Announcements, click on **State-of-the-Art CBT available free to the Army workforce**.

Army personnel have access to almost 1,500 Information Technology, Business Skills, Information Assurance Phase I and II courses, and mentoring for all certifications from any location, around the clock (24/7). E-mail julie.gueller@us.army.mil or call DSN 471-8945 or (210) 221-8945 for additional SkillSoft training information.

AMEDD Correspondence Course e-mail address

A central e-mail address is available to communicate with the AMEDD Correspondence Course Program. The address is accp@amedd.army.mil and links students to personnel who can assist them with problems or concerns about enrollment. For more information, **contact:** Nonresident Instruction Branch at 1-800-344-2380.

AECP benefits Soldiers and the Army Nurse Corps

Do you want to earn a degree? Do you enjoy helping others? If so, the Army has a program that enables enlisted Soldiers to do just that. The program is known as the AMEDD Enlisted Commissioning Program (AECP) and is open to all enlisted personnel regardless of MOS. The program has approximately 165 enlisted Soldiers currently enrolled in colleges and universities around the country who are completing their Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN).

Interested Soldiers must be able to enter a BSN program at an accredited college or university and complete their nursing degree within 24 calendar months. The program funds tuition up to \$3,000 per semester or \$2,250 per quarter. The AECP offers many benefits to the Soldier while enrolled in the program. Soldiers continue to receive enlisted pay and entitlements plus a \$1,000 annual stipend for books and other necessities. The tuition, funded by the Army, is paid directly to the school. Upon graduation from the BSN program, Soldiers attend the AMEDD Officer Basic Course and commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the Army Nurse Corps.

Interested Soldiers should go to the Army website at www.goarmyhealthcare.com or to www.usarec.army.mil/accp/ and review the AECP Program guidelines. **Contact:** SFC Bradshaw, AECP Program Manager, DSN 536-0381 or 1-800-223-3735, ext 60381.

Officer Candidate School (OCS)

Deciding to attend OCS is a highly competitive option not available to everyone. Prospective candidates must have a 4-year college degree and meet other requirements such as height, weight, and medical standards. Those selected must successfully complete Basic Combat Training before attending OCS.

During the 14-week OCS course, candidates are trained in the skills that provide the foundation for Army leadership. After successfully completing OCS, officers attend the Officer Basic Course (OBC) for their designated career field, where they'll receive classroom and hands-on training in career-specific skills. New OBC graduates generally begin their Army management careers as platoon leaders in the rank of Second or First Lieutenant and are stationed at installations around the world.

For questions about Eligibility Criteria, Officer Branching Assignments, and availability of class dates, **contact:** Mr. Al Rolland at the Department of Army OCS/ROTC Management by e-mail rollanda@hoffman.army.mil or call DSN 221-3756 or 1-800-654-7298.

For detailed application information, go to website http://www.infantry.army.mil/ocs/content/apply_to_OCS.htm. If you still have questions, **contact:** USAREC HQ at (502) 626-0467.

Professional Postgraduate Short Course Program FY 04

For details, access the DHET website at <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/dhet/index.htm>. Click on Enlisted Training located on the left side of the page. Scroll down for information on how to apply.

AMEDD Videotapes

The AMEDDC&S has videotapes for use in individual or group instruction. Visit the website at <http://dodimagery.afis.osd.mil> where you can place your order. The videotapes are available at your supporting Training Support Center or Visual Information Support Center. You may also log on the web page at <http://cs.amedd.army.mil> or **contact:** the Health Sciences Visual Information Division, DSN 471-3111 or (210) 221-3111.

91E Sergeant's Time Training

All the PowerPoint lessons for the 91E basic course are available on-line, as well as other dental related information at the Department of Dental Science website. Please consider adding them to your unit sustainment training for MOS 91E Soldiers. The website is <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/dentalsci>.

Dental Assisting National Board (DANB)

Graduates of the 91E basic course are eligible to take the DANB exam under Pathway IV if they meet the following:

- high school graduation or its equivalent.
- graduation or completion of a DANB accepted dental assisting program (AMEDDC&S is school 2864).
- a minimum of 6 months full-time work experience.
- DANB accepted CPR earned within 2 years prior to the examination date.

All active duty Soldiers receive a discount on the cost of the examination or its parts. Applications and other information can be found at <http://www.danb.org>.

Combat Lifesaver Program

Immediate, far-forward care is essential on a widely dispersed and fluid battlefield. Unfortunately, medical personnel may not be able to reach all wounded Soldiers on the battlefield in a timely manner.

The combat lifesaver is a nonmedical Soldier trained to provide immediate emergency care to fellow Soldiers as a secondary mission when the tactical situation permits. Each squad, crew, or equivalent-sized unit should have at least one member trained as a combat lifesaver.

Combat lifesaver training is provided at the unit level by a qualified medical instructor (MOS 91W BNCOC graduate, ASI 91WM6, MOS 18D, physician assistant, registered nurse, or physician). The course usually takes from 3 to 5 days to conduct.

Combat lifesaver tasks are perishable skills. To remain qualified, combat lifesavers must recertify every 12 months. The recertification test is contained in the instructor's guide (ISO826). The test can also be found at http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/clsp/CLS_Recett.pdf. A person qualified to teach the combat lifesaver course is also qualified to administer the recertification test.

The combat lifesaver program is governed by AR 350-1, Army Training and Education, dated 9 Apr 03. This regulation superseded AR 350-41, Training in Units. Information on combat lifesaver training can be found in paragraph 4-12 on page 76 of AR 350-1.

Additional information on the Combat Lifesaver Program, including enrollment instructions, can be found at <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/clsp/GENINFO.htm>. **Contact:** Mr. Atkerson, DSN 471-3770, (210) 221-7330, or e-mail don.atkerson@cen.amedd.army.mil.